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The Immigrant Labour Force Analysis Series

The Canadian Immigrant Labour Market in 2006: Analysis by Region or Country of Birth

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Statistics Canada
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The Immigrant Labour Force Analysis Series

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Executive summary

This study assessed the labour force situation for immigrants at three stages: very recent immigrants, who had landed between 2001 and 2006; recent immigrants, who had landed between 1996 and 2001; and established immigrants, who had been in Canada more than 10 years.

Immigrants born in Southeast Asia, particularly those from the Philippines, had the strongest labour market performance of all immigrants to Canada in 2006, regardless of when they landed in the country, according to a new study.

The study found that in 2006, many very recent immigrants in the core working-age group, aged 25 to 54, had experienced more difficulties in the labour market than the Canadian born, regardless of their region of birth.

Among very recent immigrants, only those born in Southeast Asia had unemployment rates, employment rates and participation rates that were more or less on par with the core working-age Canadian-born population.

Those born elsewhere in Asia (including the Middle East) as well as individuals born in Latin America, Europe and Africa all had higher unemployment rates and lower employment rates in 2006 than their Canadian-born counterparts.

Working-age immigrants born in Europe had 2006 labour market outcomes that were similar to the Canadian born, but this was the case mainly for recent and established immigrants.

Immigrants born in Africa experienced difficulties in the labour market, regardless of when they had landed. The estimated 70,000 very recent African-born immigrants had an unemployment rate of 20.8%, more than four times higher than that of the Canadian born.

Countries of birth for immigrants to Canada have changed over the past few decades, shifting most notably in the mid-1980s from mainly European toward more Asian.

Asian-born immigrants largest group to settle in Canada

Regardless of period of landing, people born in Asia (including the Middle East) were the largest group of immigrants that had settled in Canada as of 2006. Many were born in the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, India, Vietnam, Philippines, Iran or Pakistan.

For all Asians aged 25 to 54, their employment rate was much weaker than that of the Canadian born, especially among very recent immigrants. Their employment rate was only 63.8%, compared with 83.1% for their counterparts born in Canada.

However, for all three periods of landing covered by this study, immigrants in this age group who were born in Southeast Asia had labour market outcomes that were close to or better than those of the Canadian born. Within Southeast Asia, both men and women born in the Philippines had particularly strong results. In fact, Filipino-born very recent immigrants had an unemployment rate of 5.4%, which was only slightly higher than that of the Canadian born (4.9%).

Immigrants born in Europe

Despite being a declining proportion of immigrants aged 25 to 54, those born in Europe still represented the second-largest source region of all immigrants in 2006. Many came from the United Kingdom, Italy, Poland, Portugal or Romania.

As with most other regions, very recent immigrants born in Europe had higher unemployment rates than the Canadian born. Their unemployment rate was 8.4%, above the average (4.9%) of people born in Canada.

Established immigrants born in Europe had a 2006 employment rate of 83.9%, slightly higher than that of the Canadian born. This group represented 33% of all established immigrants aged 25 to 54. In addition, unemployment rates for established immigrants born in the United Kingdom and Portugal were much lower than those of their Canadian-born counterparts.

Immigrants born in Latin America

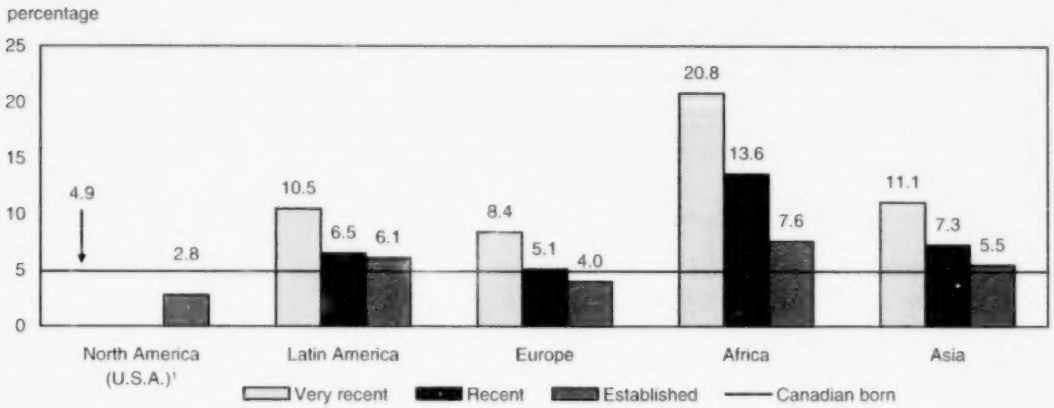
In 2006, as with almost all other regions, very recent immigrants of core working age born in Latin America had higher unemployment rates and lower employment rates than the Canadian born. More specifically, their unemployment rate was 2.1 times higher than their Canadian-born counterparts. For both the recent and established immigrants, unemployment and employment rates were close to those of the Canadian born.

Immigrants born in Africa

For immigrants of core working age who were born in Africa, they had higher unemployment rates and lower employment rates compared with the Canadian born and with some other regions of birth, no matter what period they had landed.

Chart 1.1

Unemployment rate for immigrants aged 25 to 54, by region of birth and landing period, 2006



1. Data for very recent and recent immigrants suppressed because of coefficient of variation (CV) >33.3% and/or very small estimates.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

For example, the estimated 70,000 African-born very recent immigrants had an unemployment rate that was more than four times higher than that of their Canadian-born counterparts. They also posted lower employment rates. The story was not any better when looking at the regions within Africa—both those born in eastern Africa and northern Africa had unemployment rates that were over four times higher than that of their Canadian-born peers.

Immigrant men more likely to be working than immigrant women

In general, immigrant men of core working age were more likely than their female counterparts to be participating in the Canadian labour market.

In particular, European-born men aged 25 to 54 had labour market outcomes either similar to or better than those of Canadian-born men, no matter when they landed in Canada. Established European-born men had labour market outcomes that were better than those of the Canadian born.

The study found a greater disparity between immigrant and Canadian-born women in 2006. Unemployment was high for almost all immigrant women, regardless of where they were born and when they landed in Canada.

This issue was particularly pronounced for very recent arrivals: in 2006, their unemployment rate was 2.8 times higher, and their participation and employment rates significantly lower, than those of Canadian-born women.

Young very recent immigrants had high unemployment rates

Young very recent immigrants aged 15 to 24 had unemployment rates in 2006 that were higher and employment rates that were lower than their Canadian-born counterparts, no matter in which region they were born. However, they also had comparatively higher school attendance.

Young recent and established immigrants born in Europe were as likely as Canadian-born youth to be either employed or unemployed.

Most older immigrants were born in Europe, Asia

The study also examined older workers. In 2006, Canada had about 2.1 million immigrants aged 55 and over, the vast majority of whom (93%) were established immigrants. In fact, most had landed here before 1986. Most of these older immigrants were born in two regions: Europe (59%) or Asia (25%).

Among these older workers, established immigrants born in Asia were much more likely to be unemployed in 2006 than their Canadian-born counterparts. However, all older established immigrants, regardless of region of birth, had unemployment rates in 2006 that were similar to or lower than those of the Canadian born.

Provinces: Vast majority settled in Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec

Because the vast majority of immigrants settle in Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec, the analysis focused on these provinces.

In Ontario, Asian- and African-born immigrants aged 25 to 54, regardless of time since landing, had higher unemployment rates and lower employment rates than the Canadian born. Recent and established immigrants born in Europe and Latin America had labour market outcomes similar to those of Canadian-born workers in Ontario.

In British Columbia, Asian-born and European-born recent and established immigrants had 2006 labour market outcomes that were comparable to those of Canadian-born British Columbians.

In Quebec, very recent and recent immigrants born in Latin America, Asia and Africa had 2006 unemployment rates two to four times higher than that of Canadian-born Quebeckers. Recent and established immigrants born in Europe had unemployment rates that were not much different from that of their Canadian-born counterparts.

Background

The first report on immigrants in the labour force, based on 2006 Labour Force Survey data, was released in September 2007. The particular focus of this paper was on landed immigrants aged 25 to 54—referred to as the 'core working age.' The results of this paper revealed that established immigrants—those who had landed in Canada before 1996—of core working age had labour market outcomes that closely resembled those of their Canadian-born counterparts. Very recent immigrants—those who had landed from 2001 to 2006—had the most difficulty in the labour market in 2006, followed by recent immigrants—those who had landed from 1996 to 2001. Some of the other general findings from the first report include the following:

- In 2006, the Canadian labour market was the strongest it had been in 30 years. For the Canadian population (including immigrants) of core working age, the unemployment rate was the lowest since 1976. The unemployment rate for women of core working age was at an all-time low, and the employment rate was at an all-time high. For men of core working age, the unemployment rate was its lowest since 1981, and the employment rate was its highest since 1990.
- Immigrant women of core working age had much higher unemployment rates and lower employment rates than both immigrant men and Canadian-born women, regardless of how long they had been in Canada.
- Immigrants living in Alberta benefited from a strong provincial labour market in 2006. Very recent immigrants in Alberta had the lowest unemployment rates among their counterparts in the other provinces. immigrants in Quebec, however, no matter when they landed, experienced higher unemployment rates in 2006 than Canadian-born Quebeckers.
- The vast majority of Canada's immigrants lived in Toronto, Vancouver and Montréal in 2006. Montréal reported lower employment rates in 2006 for all residents compared with Toronto or Vancouver. Of these three census metropolitan areas, Montréal's immigrants also had the most pronounced differences between their labour market outcomes and those of the Canadian born; those living in Toronto had the least.
- In 2006, immigrants were more likely to have a university education than the Canadian born. However, while unemployment rates for Canadian born were lower for progressively higher levels of education, the rates for very recent immigrants varied little by education. The unemployment rate gap was narrower between recent immigrants and the Canadian born.
- In 2006, immigrant youth (aged 15 to 24) had higher unemployment rates compared with Canadian-born youth. This was particularly true for very recent immigrant youth. The unemployment rate for young immigrant women was much higher than that of young Canadian-born women.
- The rates of unemployment and employment for established immigrant men aged 55 and older were about the same as for Canadian-born men in the same age bracket. Older, established immigrant women, however, were slightly more likely to be unemployed in 2006 compared with their Canadian-born counterparts.

This second report builds on the findings from the original report and asks a key question: how well did immigrants from specific regions or countries of birth fare in the Canadian labour market in 2006? A third report, to be released in the spring of 2008, will analyse the relationship between the region where an immigrant received postsecondary education and his or her labour market outcomes. A final report, to be released in the fall of 2008, will examine the quality of immigrant employment in Canada.

Please refer to the first report (71-606-XIE2007001) for more details.

Section 1

Introduction and definitions: Region or country of birth

This paper, the second in a series of analytical articles on immigrants in the labour force, explores the relationship among immigrants' region or country of birth, their period of landing in Canada, and their labour market outcomes in 2006.

Immigration data from the Labour Force Survey

Beginning in January 2006, five additional questions were added to the Labour Force Survey (LFS) to identify immigrants and to determine when they landed in Canada (year and month for those landing within the previous five years), and the country in which they received their highest level of educational attainment greater than high school. The questions are as follows:

In what country was ... born?

Is ... now, or has he/she ever been, a landed immigrant in Canada?

In what year did ... first become a landed immigrant?

In what month?

In what country did ... complete his/her highest degree, certificate or diploma?

Since these questions are in the LFS every month, analysts and researchers now have a continuous data series they can use to monitor immigration employment patterns and trends.

Framework of factors related to a Canadian immigrant's labour market outcomes

The difficulties that immigrants to Canada face in finding employment, particularly those who have landed more recently, are often associated with several factors, including

- recognition of foreign credentials
- differences in education levels
- degree and length of experience abroad and within Canada
- differences in quality of education in some countries
- language barriers and difficulties
- varying strength of social networks
- knowledge of and information about the Canadian labour market.[1,2,3,4]

The overarching factor is time—the more time that an immigrant spends in Canada, the more likely he or she will be able to address some or all of the difficulties mentioned above, and therefore increase his or her chances of obtaining employment. Other factors, such as the state of the economy during a particular period of landing, can also magnify or diminish the capacity of immigrants to address the above-mentioned factors. While the Labour Force Survey (LFS) is not a longitudinal survey and cannot differentiate between cause and effect, it can provide a less direct approach to this factor by using the concept of period of landing.

This series of papers on immigrants in the labour force examines the data available with this framework in mind, while recognizing that many of these factors cannot be addressed within the scope of the LFS.

1. Galarneau, Diane and Rene Morissette. 2004. "Immigrants: Settling for less?" *Perspectives on Labour and Income*. Vol. 5, no. 6. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 75-001-XIE. p. 5–16. http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/75-001-XIE/10604/art-1.htm (accessed January 22, 2008).
2. Green, David A. and Christopher Worswick. 2002. *Earnings of Immigrant Men in Canada: The Roles of Labour Market Entry Effects and Returns to Foreign Experience*. Paper prepared for Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Vancouver, British Columbia. University of British Columbia.
3. Sweetman, Arthur. 2003. *Immigrant Source Country Education Quality and Canadian Labour Market Outcomes*. Kingston, Ontario. Queen's University, School of Policy Studies.
4. Chui, Tina and Kelly Tran. 2003. *Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada: Progress and Challenges of New Immigrants in the Workforce*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 89-615-XIE. Ottawa. http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/89-615-XIE/89-615-XIE2005001.htm (accessed January 22, 2008).

A number of articles have investigated some of the associations between immigrants' origins and their labour market outcomes, particularly for immigrants to Canada. For example, some studies point to the successes of American and European immigrants in Canada's labour market, especially established immigrants, who have been in Canada for 10 years or more, while immigrants from other regions who have landed more recently struggle in this market.[5,6,7]

Based on data collected by the Labour Force Survey in 2006, this paper focuses on the labour market outcomes for immigrants of core working age, since this age group is more likely to have completed school and be available for full-time work and less likely to have entered retirement. The report begins with an analysis of the labour market outcomes of immigrants of core working age by region or country of birth at the national level. Outcomes by province and by sex are then explored. An analysis of the labour market outcomes for immigrant youth (aged 15 to 24) and immigrants aged 55 and older by region or country of birth follows.

What are the regions of birth?

In this report, every country is assigned to a lower-level region (e.g., "United Kingdom" is part of "Northern Europe"), and every lower-level region is assigned to a higher-level region (e.g., "Northern Europe" is part of "Europe"). Appendix A describes in detail how the regions and countries of birth have been grouped.

These groupings conform to those used in the census, with one exception: in the census, "Caribbean and Bermuda" is grouped within "the Americas". In this report, North America was presented on its own, while the rest of the Americas stayed together. This latter region was termed "Latin America" solely for the sake of descriptive brevity—i.e., instead of using the terms "the Americas excluding North America" or "Central/South America and Caribbean and Bermuda." We recognize that some people from the Caribbean and Bermuda are not ethnically Latin American.

Also, all references to "Asia" refer to "Asia including the Middle East," which is the longer, standard census reference for this region.

Note: The regions of birth for which data are presented here generally have the most robust data and larger sample sizes. Those that do not appear in this report have either more data-quality issues or are suppressed because of confidentiality limitations associated with small sample sizes.

Labour market outcomes and earnings

The concept of labour market outcomes includes wages and earnings, employment or unemployment status, participation in the labour market, hours of work, and temporary or permanent status.

Earnings, for example, are considered a very important dimension for assessing labour market outcomes, and have been analysed in a number of Canadian studies. This report, however, is focused only on the labour market outcomes of unemployment, employment and participation rates.

The use of the term 'labour market outcomes' in this report refers only to these three rates, not to all labour market outcomes.

A future Labour Force Survey report on immigrants in the labour force, scheduled for fall 2008, will examine the overall quality of immigrant employment, of which wages is one element.

5. Bloom, David E., Gilles Grenier and Morley Gunderson. 1995. "The changing labour market position of Canadian immigrants." *The Canadian Journal of Economics*. Vol. 28, No. 4b. p. 987–1005.
6. Li, Peter S. 2000. "Earnings disparities between immigrants and native born Canadians." *Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology*. Vol. 37, no. 3. p. 289–311.
7. Reitz, Jeffrey G. 2007. "Immigrant Employment Success in Canada, Part I: Individual and Contextual Causes." *Journal of International Migration and Integration* Vol. 8, no. 1. p. 11–36.

Definitions and concepts used by the Labour Force Survey

Immigrant type

Very recent immigrants: individuals who have been landed immigrants to Canada for 5 years or less—i.e., up to 60 months. In this study, it refers to those who arrived in Canada from 2001 to 2006.

Recent immigrants: individuals who have been landed immigrants to Canada from 5 to 10 years—i.e., 61 to 120 months. In this study, it refers to those who arrived in Canada from 1996 to 2001.

Established immigrants: individuals who have been landed immigrants to Canada for more than 10 years—i.e., 121 months or more. In this study, it refers to those who arrived in Canada before 1996.

Others: individuals residing in Canada who were born outside of Canada and are not landed immigrants—e.g., temporary foreign workers, Canadian citizens born outside Canada and those with student or working visas.

Labour market outcomes

Labour market outcomes: unemployment, employment and participation rates, for the purpose of this study. (See the "Labour market outcomes and earnings" box for more information.)

Labour force: the civilian, non-institutional population aged 15 and older who were employed or unemployed during the survey reference week.

Employment rate or employment/population ratio: the number of employed people expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 and older. The employment rate for a particular group (e.g., by age, sex, marital status, province) is the number employed in that group expressed as a percentage of the population for that group.

Participation rate: the total labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 and older. The participation rate for a particular group (e.g., women aged 25 years and older) is the labour force in that group expressed as a percentage of the total population for that group.

Unemployment rate: the number of unemployed people expressed as a percentage of the labour force. The unemployment rate for a particular group (e.g., by age, sex, marital status) is the number unemployed in that group expressed as a percentage of the labour force for that group.

Core working age

Working age: age 15 years and older.

Core working age: age 25 to 54 years. These individuals are more likely to have completed school and be available for full-time work and less likely to have entered retirement than those aged 15 to 24 or 55 and older. People of core working age are the primary focus of the analysis in this report.

Comparability with the Census of Population

When developing the immigrant questions for the Labour Force Survey (LFS), care was taken to ensure that immigrant concepts and variables arising from the questions would be comparable with those used in the Census of Population. However, since the LFS is a sample survey, the estimates are subject to more sampling variability than the census and could, therefore, differ from those published by the 2006 Census.

Section 2

Immigrant labour market outcomes, by region of birth

This study assesses the labour force situation for immigrants at three stages: very recent immigrants; recent immigrants; and established immigrants (Table 2.1).

Table 2.1
Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 25 to 54, by period of landing, 2006

	Population	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
	thousands		percent	
Canadian born	**10,845.2**	**4.9**	**87.4**	**83.1**
Very recent immigrants	**583.4**	**11.5[1]**	**73.9[1]**	**65.4[1]**
Recent immigrants	**570.3**	**7.3[1]**	**81.6[1]**	**75.7[1]**
Established immigrants	**1,948.9**	**5.0**	**86.4**	**82.1**

1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

In 2006, many very recent immigrants in the core working-age group (aged 25 to 54) had experienced some difficulties in the labour market, compared with the Canadian born, regardless of their region of birth. Only those born in Southeast Asia had unemployment rates, employment rates and participation rates that were more or less on par with the Canadian-born population of core working age. In fact, immigrants born in Southeast Asia, particularly those from the Philippines, had the strongest labour market performance of all immigrants to Canada in 2006, regardless of when they landed in the country.

Those born elsewhere in Asia from any period of landing had either higher or similar unemployment rates, and lower or similar employment rates in 2006 compared to their Canadian-born counterparts.

Working-age immigrants born in Europe and Latin America had 2006 labour market outcomes that were similar to those of the Canadian born, but this was the case mainly for those who arrived prior to 2001.

Immigrants born in Africa struggled, regardless of when they arrived. The estimated 70,000 very recent African-born immigrants had an unemployment rate of 20.8%, more than four times higher than that of their Canadian-born counterparts.

For detailed results by region or country of birth, please refer to the tables found in Appendix B.

Immigrants born in Asia (including the Middle East)

Those born in Southeast Asia had the strongest outcomes for all periods of landing

In 2006, regardless of period of landing, Asian-born immigrants were the largest group of immigrants settled in Canada. Many of these immigrants were born in the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, India, Vietnam, Philippines, Iran or Pakistan.

The 2006 unemployment rate for very recent Asian-born immigrants was more than double that of their Canadian-born counterparts, and their employment rate was much lower (Table 2.2). With the exception of Southeast Asia, this pattern was true for all other regions within Asia—those born in West Central Asia and the Middle East (including Iran), in Eastern Asia (including China) and in Southern Asia (including India and Pakistan). Those born in Pakistan had among the lowest participation and employment rates of all regions of birth.

While doing slightly better than Asian-born very recent immigrants, the unemployment rate of recent immigrants aged 25 to 54 born in Asia, was higher than that of the Canadian born, whereas the employment rate was lower (Table 2.2). Again with the exception of those born in Southeast Asia, recent immigrants from most other Asian regions of birth had difficulty in the Canadian labour market.

Results were improved for the Asian-born established immigrants of core working age. As a whole, their unemployment rate was comparable with their Canadian-born counterparts (Table 2.2). However, their employment rate was still slightly lower than that of the Canadian born. There were some notable exceptions to this pattern. Within Asia, those born in China, Hong Kong and India had unemployment and employment rates that were not much different than their Canadian-born peers.

Of all regions of birth, immigrants of core working age who were born in Southeast Asia had the labour market outcomes that matched or bettered those of the Canadian born for all three periods of landing. Men and women born in the Philippines had particularly noteworthy results; in fact, Filipino-born established immigrants had a 2006 unemployment rate that was lower than and an employment rate that was higher than their Canadian-born peers (Table 2.2).

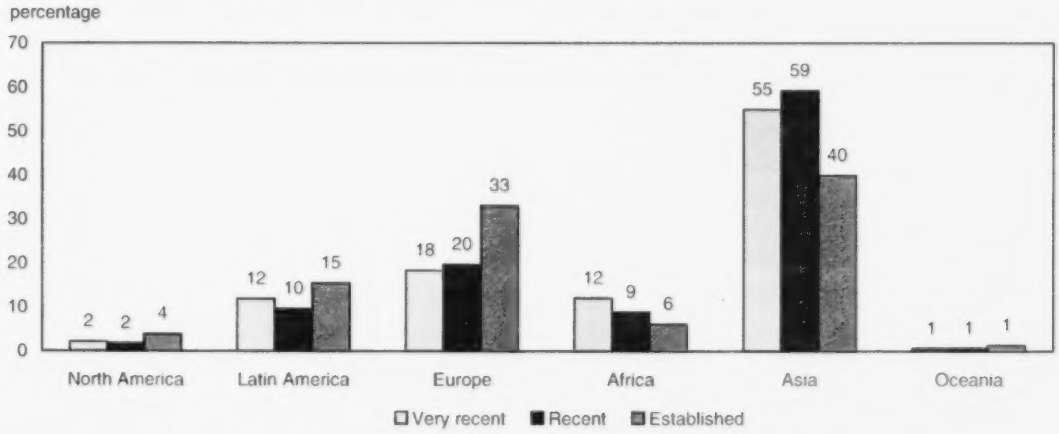
Immigrants' regions and countries of birth have shifted over the past few decades

In 2006, of the estimated 583,000 very recent immigrants of core working age in Canada, over half were born in Asia, mainly in Southern and Eastern Asia. Of those born in Europe, many were born in Eastern Europe. About 70,000 very recent immigrants were born in Africa, particularly North Africa. Of those born in Latin America, half were born in South America. For recent immigrants of core working age, the distribution by region of birth was quite similar to that of very recent immigrants (Chart 2.1).

While the regional profiles of very recent and recent immigrants of core working age were fairly similar, the birthplaces of established immigrants were different (Chart 2.1). As of 2006, many established immigrants of core working age were born in Asia, but a much lower proportion than most recent immigrants (40% versus 57%). The proportion of European born was high, but many were born in Southern or Northern Europe as opposed to the more recent pattern of Eastern Europeans. Many of the 15% of established immigrants born in Latin America were born in the Caribbean and Bermuda. Just 6% of established immigrants of core working age were born in Africa, many of whom were born in Eastern Africa.

Chart 2.1

Immigrant population aged 25 to 54, by region of birth and landing period, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

The most common countries of birth for both very recent and recent immigrants of core working age were the People's Republic of China, India, Philippines and Pakistan. In 2006, the most common countries of birth for established immigrants of core working age were the United Kingdom, India, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Philippines and Portugal.

Table 2.2

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 25 to 54 born in Asia (including Middle East), by period of landing, 2006

	Population	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
	thousands		percent	
Canadian born	**10,845.2**	**4.9**	**87.4**	**83.1**
Very recent immigrants	**320.1**	**11.1**[1]	**71.7**[1]	**63.8**[1]
West Central Asia and Middle East	45.5	16.4[1]	69.9[1]	58.5[1]
Iran	17.5	19.7[E,1]	72.6[1]	58.3[1]
Eastern Asia	107.9	11.6[1]	65.5[1]	57.9[1]
China (People's Republic of)	80.6	12.0[1]	70.2[1]	61.8[1]
Southeast Asia	57.9	6.5[E]	82.2	77.0
Philippines	45.5	5.4[E]	86.2	81.3
Southern Asia	108.9	11.5[1]	72.9[1]	64.6[1]
India	69.6	9.6[1]	76.3[1]	69.0[1]
Pakistan	23.7	14.6[E,1]	60.8[1]	52.3[1]
Recent immigrants	**337.6**	**7.3**[1]	**79.3**[1]	**73.5**[1]
West Central Asia and Middle East	46.5	8.7[E]	76.8[1]	69.9[1]
Eastern Asia	127.8	7.9[1]	78.5[1]	72.3[1]
China (People's Republic of)	75.5	8.7[1]	85.6	78.0[1]
Southeast Asia	47.3	6.1[E]	87.1	82.0
Southern Asia	115.9	6.7	78.1[1]	72.8[1]
India	70.5	6.1[E]	80.9[1]	75.9[1]
Pakistan	25.3	9.1[E]	73.9[1]	67.2[1]
Established immigrants	**778.4**	**5.5**	**84.9**[1]	**80.3**[1]
West Central Asia and Middle East	108.9	7.3	81.5[1]	75.6[1]
Eastern Asia	229.3	4.6	83.4[1]	79.6[1]
China (People's Republic of)	72.3	4.8[E]	84.1	80.2
Hong Kong	116.0	4.7[E]	84.7	80.7
Southeast Asia	241.1	4.8	88.2	83.9
Philippines	97.1	2.4[E,1]	92.0[1]	89.8[1]
Vietnam	98.5	6.3	84.3	79.0[1]
Southern Asia	198.8	6.4[1]	84.7[1]	79.2[1]
India	128.2	5.5	86.3	81.4

[E] use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%

1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Immigrants born in Europe

Compared with most other immigrants, those born in Europe were doing fairly well in the labour market

Despite representing a declining proportion of immigrants of core working age (Chart 2.1), those born in Europe still represented the second-largest source region of all immigrants as of 2006. Overall, many European immigrants to Canada were born in the United Kingdom, Italy, Poland, Portugal or Romania, although a shift from Northern and Southern European countries to more Eastern European countries has taken place over the past two decades.

As with most other regions, the very recent immigrants born in Europe had higher unemployment rates and lower employment rates than the Canadian born (Table 2.3). While the unemployment rate for these immigrants was 1.7 times higher than the Canadian born, it was the lowest among all regions of birth for very recent immigrants.

European born recent immigrants of core working age had better labour market outcomes than many of their very recent counterparts. Specifically, their unemployment rates and employment rates were not much different from the Canadian born (Table 2.3).

Established immigrants born in Europe of core working age accounted for 33% of all established immigrants. Those born in Europe had an unemployment rate that was actually lower than that of the Canadian born (Table 2.3). Within this region, unemployment rates were below that of the Canadian born for those born in the United Kingdom and Portugal. Established immigrants born in the United Kingdom also enjoyed participation rates that were higher than their Canadian-born counterparts.

Table 2.3

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 25 to 54 born in Europe, by period of landing, 2006

	Population	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
	thousands		percent	
Canadian born	**10,845.2**	**4.9**	**87.4**	**83.1**
Very recent immigrants	**106.8**	**8.4**[1]	**80.3**[1]	**73.6**[1]
Eastern Europe	63.0	7.7[1]	80.2[1]	74.0[1]
Recent immigrants	**112.2**	**5.1**[E]	**87.1**	**82.6**
Southern Europe	21.8	8.4[E]	81.7	74.3[1]
Established immigrants	**644.2**	**4.0**[1]	**87.4**	**83.9**
Western Europe	93.6	4.1	86.0	82.6
Eastern Europe	131.0	4.8[E]	89.2	85.0
Poland	75.2	4.4[E]	87.9	83.9
Northern Europe	196.2	3.2[1]	89.8[1]	86.9[1]
United Kingdom	180.2	3.3[1]	89.9[1]	87.0[1]
Southern Europe	222.4	4.1	84.8[1]	81.3
Italy	73.5	4.6[E]	86.7	82.7
Portugal	89.1	2.8[E 1]	83.2	80.7

[E] use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%

1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Immigrants born in Latin America

Labour market outcomes for recent and established immigrants from Latin America were comparable with those of Canadian born

Although their share has declined in recent years, immigrants born in Latin America still represented about 1 in 8 immigrants of core working age. The most common countries of birth for these immigrants include Jamaica, Colombia, Haiti, Mexico and Guyana.

In 2006, as with almost all other regions, very recent immigrants of core working age born in Latin America had higher unemployment rates and lower employment rates than the Canadian born (Table 2.4). More specifically, their unemployment rate was 2.1 times higher than their Canadian-born counterparts.

For both the recent and established immigrants, unemployment and employment rates were close to those of the Canadian born (Table 2.4).

Immigrants born in Latin America accounted for 15% of all established immigrants of core working age in 2006. Within this region, there was one result worth noting: participation rates among established immigrants born in the Caribbean and Bermuda (and more specifically, Jamaica) were above that of their Canadian-born peers.

Table 2.4

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 25 to 54 born in Latin America, by period of landing, 2006

	Population	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
	thousands		percent	
Canadian born	**10,845.2**	**4.9**	**87.4**	**83.1**
Very recent immigrants	**69.5**	**10.5**[1]	**74.1**[1]	**66.3**[1]
Caribbean and Bermuda	20.6	10.8[E 1]	76.7[1]	68.4[1]
South America	34.2	10.9[E 1]	74.9[1]	66.7[1]
Recent immigrants	**55.1**	**6.5**[E]	**84.0**	**78.6**
Established immigrants	**302.0**	**6.1**	**88.8**	**83.3**
Central America	57.2	7.5[E]	86.0	79.5
Caribbean and Bermuda	142.7	6.9	90.7[1]	84.4
Jamaica	61.6	6.0[E]	92.5[1]	86.9
South America	102.1	4.1[E]	87.6	83.9

[E] use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%

1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Immigrants born in Africa

High unemployment rates for African-born immigrants in all periods of landing

In 2006, 12% of very recent immigrants of core working age were born in Africa—this is double the proportion of African-born established immigrants. Some of the more common countries of birth include Algeria, Morocco, Nigeria, Egypt and South Africa.

For immigrants of core working age who were born in Africa, they had higher unemployment rates and lower employment rates compared with the Canadian born and with some other regions of birth, no matter what period they had landed.

For example, the estimated 70,000 African-born very recent immigrants had an unemployment rate that was more than four times higher than that of their Canadian-born counterparts (Table 2.5). They also posted lower employment rates. The story was not any better when looking at the regions within Africa—both those born in eastern Africa and northern Africa had unemployment rates that were over four times higher than that of their Canadian-born peers.

Table 2.5

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 25 to 54 born in Africa, by period of landing, 2006

	Population	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
	thousands		percent	
Canadian born	**10,845.2**	**4.9**	**87.4**	**83.1**
Very recent immigrants	**70.3**	**20.8[1]**	**72.5[1]**	**57.5[1]**
Eastern Africa	16.4	22.8[E,1]	69.5[1]	53.7[1]
Northern Africa	35.5	24.1[1]	71.3[1]	54.1[1]
Recent immigrants	**50.8**	**13.6[E,1]**	**81.1[1]**	**70.1[1]**
Northern Africa	22.3	14.5[E,1]	86.5	73.5[1]
Established immigrants	**121.0**	**7.6[1]**	**84.0[1]**	**77.8[1]**
Eastern Africa	54.4	6.5[E]	85.3	79.6
Northern Africa	32.5	6.8[E]	81.5	76.0

[E] use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%

1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

According to a recent Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) publication, just over 20% of all very recent immigrants who come from, but were not necessarily born in, Africa, the Middle East and South America came to Canada as refugees. This compares with 9% of Asia–Pacific immigrants and 8% of those from Europe and the United Kingdom.[1]

As documented in the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (LSIC), refugees face a number of difficulties in the labour market compared with immigrants from other immigrant categories, such as lower employment rates and more language difficulties.[2] None have gone through the selection criteria process that economic-class applicants go through, though this does not necessarily mean that their level of qualifications are any different. Also, they do not often have strong family ties in Canada that family-class applicants have. As well, they are less likely to have been prepared for the move to Canada as skilled immigrants are—e.g., they may not have all their belongings, including credentials. Larger proportions of refugees may explain some differences in labour market outcomes, particularly for very recent immigrants from Africa and South America.

1. Citizenship and Immigration Canada. 2007. *Facts and Figures 2006: Immigration Overview*. Ottawa, Ontario. p. 28.
2. Chui, Tina and Kelly Tran. 2003. *Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada: Progress and Challenges of New Immigrants in the Workforce*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 89-615-XIE. Ottawa. http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/89-615-XIE/89-615-XIE2005001.htm (accessed January 22, 2008).

Immigration categories

Economic immigrants: permanent residents selected for their skills and ability to contribute to Canada's economy. This category includes skilled workers, business immigrants, provincial or territorial nominees and live-in caregivers.

Family class: permanent residents sponsored by a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident living in Canada who is 18 years of age or older. This category includes spouses and partners (i.e., spouse, common-law partner or conjugal partner); parents and grandparents; and others (i.e., dependent children, children under the age of 18 whom the sponsor intends to adopt in Canada, brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces and grandchildren who are orphans under 18 years of age, or any other relative if the sponsor has no relative as described above, either abroad or in Canada). Fiancé(e)s are no longer designated as a component of the family class under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.

Refugee claimants: temporary residents in the humanitarian-population category who request refugee protection upon or after arrival in Canada. A refugee claimant receives Canada's protection when he or she is found to be a Convention refugee, as defined by the United Nations 1951 Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 protocol, or when found to be a person needing protection based on risk to life, risk of cruel and unusual treatment or punishment, or danger of torture as defined in the Convention Against Torture. A refugee claimant whose claim is accepted may make an application in Canada for permanent residence. The applicant may include family members in Canada and abroad.

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, 2007, Facts and Figures 2006: Immigration Overview, Ottawa, Ontario, p 28.

Section 3

Immigrant labour market outcomes by region of birth and sex

Immigrant men

Labour market outcomes for immigrant men, particularly those born in Europe, approached or bettered that of the Canadian born based on time since landing

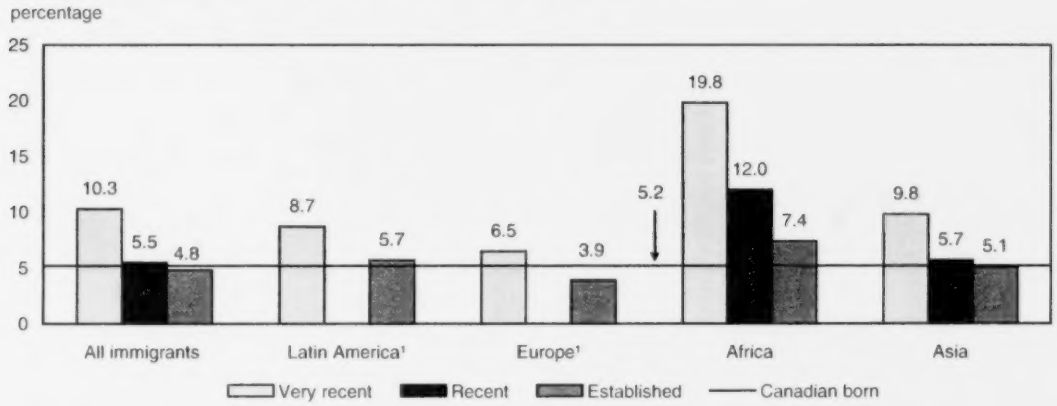
The 2006 unemployment rate of very recent immigrant men was almost double that of Canadian-born men, and their participation and employment rates were lower (Table 3.1). For both recent and established immigrant men, their labour market outcomes were no different from that of the Canadian born.

While in general, recent and established male immigrants were doing well in the Canadian labour market, their outcomes varied based on place of birth. Male immigrants born in some regions had stronger results than others. Specifically, those born in Europe and Southern Asia had particularly strong outcomes, while those born in Africa did not.

European-born men of core working age, no matter which period they landed in Canada, had labour market outcomes that were either similar to or better than that of Canadian-born men. More specifically, European-born very recent immigrant men had labour market outcomes that were no different from the Canadian born; both recent and established immigrant men had participation and employment rates that were better than that of their Canadian-born counterparts (Table 3.1).

Chart 3.1

Unemployment rate for male immigrants aged 25 to 54, by period of landing, 2006



1. Data for recent immigrants suppressed because of coefficient of variation (CV) >33.3% and/or very small estimates.
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

A similar story for labour market outcomes was evident for immigrant men born in Southern Asia. In 2006, very recent, recent and established immigrant men of core working age born in Southern Asia had unemployment, participation and employment rates that were comparable with or better than Canadian-born men (Table 3.1).

African-born men who were very recent immigrants had the highest unemployment rate of all regions of birth—at nearly four times higher than Canadian-born men (Table 3.1). While recent immigrant men born in Africa had a participation rate in 2006 that was similar to Canadian-born men, they had an unemployment rate that was twice as high. Established immigrant men born in Africa had a 2006 employment rate that was not as strong as Canadian-born men and their unemployment rate was just 1.4 times higher than that of the Canadian born, which was much better than that of more recent immigrant men born in Africa.

Table 3.1

Labour market outcomes of male immigrants aged 25 to 54 in Canada from selected regions of birth, by period of landing, 2006

	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
		percent	
Canadian born	**5.2**	**91.4**	**86.6**
Very recent immigrants	**10.3**[1]	**86.4**[1]	**77.6**[1]
Latin America	8.7[E]	86.3	78.8[1]
Europe	6.5[E]	90.6	84.5
Africa	19.8[1]	82.0[1]	65.7[1]
Asia	9.8[1]	85.9[1]	77.6[1]
West Central Asia and Middle East	16.1[E,1]	85.1[1]	71.4[1]
Eastern Asia	10.6[E,1]	78.6[1]	70.3[1]
Southeast Asia	F	90.9	84.6
Southern Asia	7.2[E]	91.5	84.9
Recent immigrants	**5.5**	**92.8**	**87.7**
Latin America	F	94.6[1]	90.7[1]
Europe	F	94.2[1]	91.9[1]
Africa	12.0[E,1]	91.6	80.6
Asia	5.7	92.4	87.2
West Central Asia and Middle East	F	87.7	81.4
Eastern Asia	6.4[E]	90.1	84.3
Southeast Asia	F	97.7[1]	93.0[1]
Southern Asia	5.0[E]	95.2[1]	90.7[1]
Established immigrants	**4.8**	**92.4**	**87.9**
Latin America	5.7	94.5[1]	89.1[1]
Europe	3.9[1]	92.8[1]	89.2[1]
Africa	7.4[E]	87.8	81.5[1]
Asia	5.1	91.8	87.1
West Central Asia and Middle East	6.8[E]	90.8	84.7
Eastern Asia	4.7[E]	90.0	85.8
Southeast Asia	4.6[E]	93.3	89.0
Southern Asia	5.0[E]	92.6	87.9

E use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%
F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates
1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Immigrant women

Unemployment rates were high for immigrant women, particularly for those born in Asia and Africa, regardless of period of landing

Unemployment was higher for almost all immigrant women than for Canadian-born women, regardless of where they were born and when they landed in Canada. The issue was particularly pronounced for the very recent arrivals.

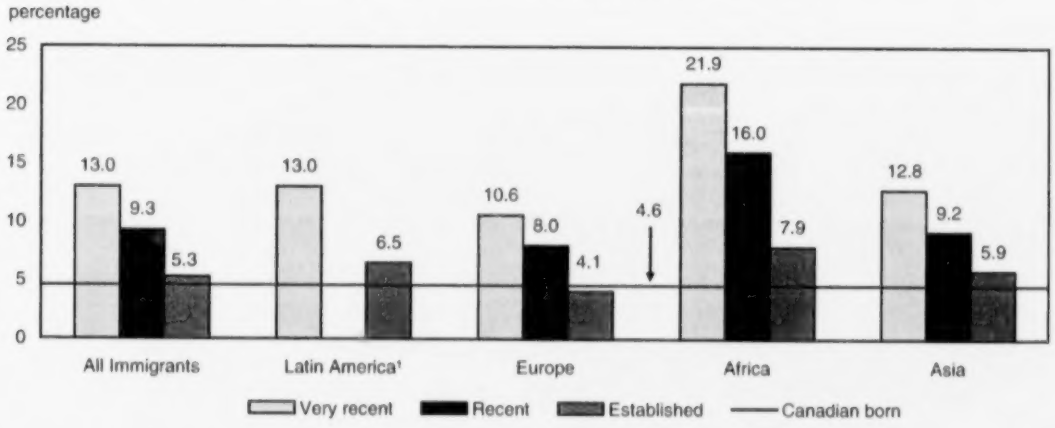
In 2006, the unemployment rate for very recent immigrant women was 2.8 times higher than that of Canadian-born women, and their participation and employment rates were significantly lower than their Canadian-born counterparts (Table 3.2). Labour market outcomes were slightly better for recent immigrant women, but not by much—the unemployment rate was still double that of women born in Canada and the participation and employment rates were still lower than their Canadian-born counterparts. The unemployment rate for established immigrant women was still higher than that of the Canadian born (1.2 times higher).

European-born very recent immigrant women had an unemployment rate that was 2.3 times higher than the Canadian born, the lowest of all regions of birth for that period of landing. The largest differential was for African-born very recent immigrant women, with an unemployment rate 4.8 times higher than their Canadian-born counterparts (Chart 3.2).

Only women born in Europe or Southeast Asia who were established immigrants had unemployment rates that were comparable with that of Canadian-born women.

Chart 3.2

Unemployment rate for female immigrants aged 25 to 54, by period of landing, 2006



1. Data for recent immigrants suppressed because of coefficient of variation (CV) >33.3% and/or very small estimates.
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Table 3.2

Labour market outcomes of female immigrants aged 25 to 54 in Canada from selected regions of birth, by period of landing, 2006

	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
		percent	
Canadian born	**4.6**	**83.4**	**79.6**
Very recent immigrants	**13.0†**	**62.7†**	**54.6†**
Latin America	13.0E †	63.6†	55.3†
Europe	10.6†	71.1†	63.6†
Africa	21.9†	61.0†	47.6†
Asia	12.8†	59.8†	52.2†
West Central Asia and Middle East	16.8E †	51.7†	43.5†
Eastern Asia	12.8†	55.0†	48.2†
Southeast Asia	F	77.6	73.0†
Southern Asia	17.4†	56.1†	46.3†
Recent immigrants	**9.3†**	**71.5†**	**64.8†**
Latin America	F	74.7†	67.8†
Europe	8.0E	80.8	74.3†
Africa	16.0E †	68.9†	57.4†
Asia	9.2†	68.0†	61.6†
West Central Asia and Middle East	F	65.5†	58.1†
Eastern Asia	9.6†	68.5†	61.8†
Southeast Asia	F	81.1	75.5
Southern Asia	9.4E †	61.4†	55.7†
Established immigrants	**5.3†**	**80.7†**	**76.4†**
Latin America	6.5†	83.8	78.3
Europe	4.1	82.1	78.7
Africa	7.9E †	79.4	73.2†
Asia	5.9†	78.4†	73.8†
West Central Asia and Middle East	8.2E	70.1†	64.3†
Eastern Asia	4.4E	77.8†	74.4†
Southeast Asia	4.9	83.8	79.7
Southern Asia	8.3†	75.8†	69.5†

E use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%
F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates
1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Table 3.3

Proportion of students and student participation rate, population aged 25 to 54, by period of landing, region of birth and sex, 2006

	Proportion of students			Student participation rate		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
	percent					
Canadian born	**4.0**	**3.3**	**4.7**	**67.2**	**65.7**	**68.2**
Very recent immigrants	**15.3**	**14.0**	**16.4**	**41.0**	**48.3**	**35.2**
Latin America	20.9	19.0	22.5	45.5	59.0	35.7
Europe	16.3	13.1	19.2	52.3	59.7	47.7
Africa	17.8	18.6	16.8	38.4	36.1	41.5
Asia	13.6	12.4	14.6	36.0	45.9	29.0
Recent immigrants	**7.1**	**5.9**	**8.2**	**65.7**	**73.6**	**60.6**
Latin America	7.1	7.7	6.5	71.8	85.0	F
Europe	7.6	4.9	10.2	69.4	65.4	70.0
Africa	10.8	8.4	13.6	54.5	69.6	F
Asia	6.5	5.5	7.4	65.0	73.6	59.4
Established immigrants	**4.0**	**3.2**	**4.8**	**62.9**	**63.5**	**62.6**
Latin America	5.1	2.9	7.0	70.8	73.2	69.0
Europe	3.2	2.2	4.2	67.0	69.0	65.9
Africa	7.2	6.5	8.1	49.4	48.8	50.0
Asia	3.7	3.6	3.9	57.9	59.6	56.5

F too unreliable to be published because of coefficient of variation (CV)>33.3% and/or very small estimates

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

The differences in labour market outcomes between immigrant and non-immigrant women have also been observed in other countries. Among many countries involved with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, a very similar pattern for immigrant women exists—immigrant women are less integrated into the labour market than both immigrant men and Canadian-born women, regardless of education or time since landing.[1] [2]. In fact, Fernandez and Fogli (2005) show how persistent the cultural influence (e.g., fertility rates and female participation rates) of a woman's country of origin is in shaping labour market participation behaviour in her new home country.[3]

Very recent immigrant women had higher school attendance and lower participation rates than their male counterparts

For all regions of birth and both sexes, very recent immigrants of core working age were 3.8 to 4.8 times more likely to be attending school in 2006 than their Canadian-born counterparts. Furthermore, those immigrants who were attending school were much less likely to be also participating in the labour force (Table 3.3). Very recent immigrant women were slightly more likely to be students than very recent immigrant men, and were much less likely to be participating in the labour market at the same time as their schooling.

1. Dumont, Jean-Christophe and Thomas Liebig. 2005. *Labour Market Integration of Immigrant Women: Overview and Recent Trends*. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Room Document no. 3. Brussels, Belgium. OECD and European Commission Seminar.
2. Dumont, Jean-Christophe and M. Isoppo. 2005. *The Participation of Immigrant Women in the Labour Market: A Double Handicap Despite the Progress Made*. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Room Document no. 2. Brussels, Belgium. OECD and European Commission Seminar.
3. Fernandez R. and A. Fogli. 2005. *Culture: An Empirical Investigation of Beliefs, Work and Fertility*. Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) Discussion Paper no. 5089. London, United Kingdom.

Section 4

Immigrant labour market outcomes, by region of birth and selected provinces

Because the vast majority of immigrants settle in Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec, the following will focus on these provinces where Labour Force Survey sample sizes permit analysis by region of birth. Data on the three largest census metropolitan areas—Toronto, Vancouver and Montréal—are not presented here because of the labour market outcomes in these areas are very similar to those of their respective province.

Ontario

Most Ontario immigrants were born in Asia, Europe or Latin America

As mentioned in the previous paper, nearly 1.8 million, or well over half (57%) of all immigrants of core working age in Canada, were living in Ontario in 2006. Almost half of these Ontario immigrants were born in Asia, followed by Europe and Latin America. Over time, there has been a shift toward more Asian-born Ontario immigrants with fewer new arrivals born in Europe (Chart 4.1).

Challenging labour market for Asian-born immigrants of core working age

In 2006, compared with Canadian-born Ontarians, the unemployment rate was higher for all Asian-born immigrants: 2.8 times higher for the very recent, 1.7 times for the recent and 1.4 times for the established Asian immigrants (Table 4.1). Their employment rates in 2006 for all periods of landing were lower than those of Ontarians born in Canada. One notable exception within Asia was for those born in Southeast Asia, whose labour market outcomes were similar to Canadian-born Ontarians based on all periods of landing.

While they represented only about 6% of all immigrants in Ontario (Chart 4.1), African-born immigrants of core working age in Ontario had high unemployment rates—from 1.7 times higher for the established to 4.7 times for the very recent. They also had low employment rates compared with their Canadian-born peers. These high rates may be in part related to the labour market difficulties for refugees noted in Section 2.

European-born recent and established immigrants of core working age had comparable labour market outcomes with the Canadian born

In 2006, the unemployment rates of recent and established European-born Ontario-based immigrants of core working age were not much different from that of Canadian-born Ontario residents (Table 4.1). Their participation rate and employment rates were also comparable with those of Canadian-born Ontarians of the same age. European-born Ontarians who were very recent immigrants, however, had a higher 2006 unemployment rate and a lower employment rate than Ontarians born in Canada.

While very recent immigrants born in Latin America and living in Ontario had participation rates and employment rates that were lower than that of Canadian-born Ontarians, these rates for recent and established immigrants born in this region were similar to or better than their Canadian-born counterparts (Table 4.1).

British Columbia

Asian-born immigrants of core working age in British Columbia had mixed results in the labour market

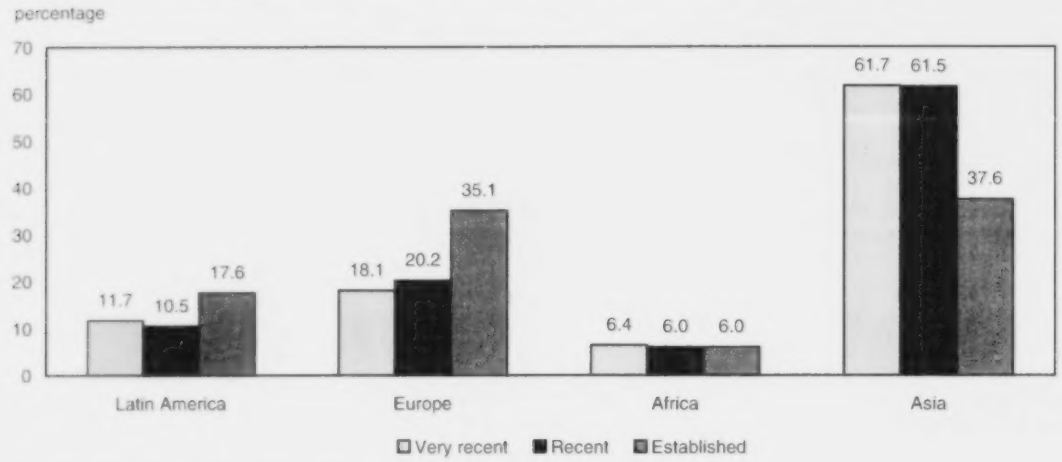
Of British Columbia's approximately 522,000 immigrants of core working age in 2006, 60% were born in Asia, particularly Eastern Asia, and another one-fifth were born in Europe, particularly Northern Europe. Among the estimated 187,000 very recent and recent immigrants, about 75% were born in Asia (Chart 4.2). This differed slightly from the 335,000 established immigrants in the same age group, of whom just under 60% were born in Asia, and 25% in Europe.

The unemployment rate of Asian-born very recent immigrants in British Columbia was 2.8 times higher than that of their Canadian-born peers. Both recent and established immigrants had unemployment rates that were comparable with their Canadian-born fellow British Columbians (Table 4.2). Regardless of period of landing, however, their employment rates trailed behind those of the Canadian born.

The relatively small number of immigrants from all periods of landing in British Columbia born in other regions, such as Europe, Latin America and Africa, had lower or similar participation and employment rates compared with the Canadian born in British Columbia (Appendix B).

Chart 4.1

Distribution of Ontario immigrants aged 25 to 54, by region of birth and period of landing, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Table 4.1

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 25 to 54 in Ontario from selected regions of birth, by period of landing, 2006

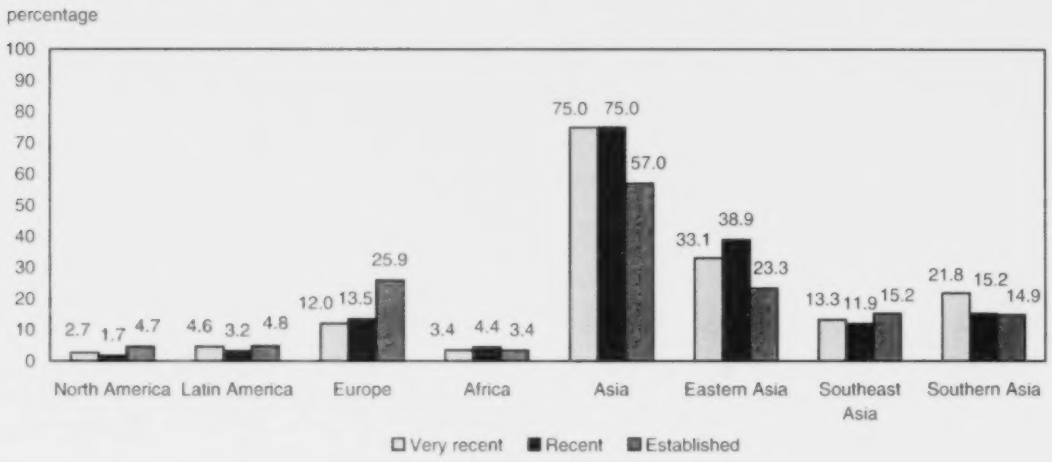
	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
		percent	
Canadian born	**4.4**	**88.0**	**84.1**
Very recent immigrants	**11.0†**	**74.5†**	**66.3†**
Latin America	8.4E †	73.8†	67.3†
Europe	7.1E †	79.4†	73.7†
Eastern Europe	6.6E	82.4†	77.0†
Africa	19.7E †	70.3†	56.9†
Eastern Africa	24.6E †	71.9†	54.2†
Asia	12.1†	73.6†	64.8†
West Central Asia and Middle East	15.7E †	72.1†	60.8†
Eastern Asia	13.4E †	70.0†	60.4†
Southeast Asia	7.8E	84.4	77.8
Southern Asia	11.5†	72.9†	64.5†
Recent immigrants	**7.0†**	**82.1†**	**76.3†**
Latin America	F	85.3	79.5
Europe	4.3E	87.4	83.6
Eastern Europe	F	89.6	86.3
Africa	14.6E †	75.9†	64.8†
Eastern Africa	F	63.0†	54.3E†
Asia	7.5†	80.4†	74.4†
West Central Asia and Middle East	7.9E	76.5†	70.5†
Eastern Asia	8.1E †	82.3†	75.7†
Southeast Asia	F	87.4	80.5
Southern Asia	6.9E	78.1†	72.7†
Established immigrants	**5.0**	**87.1**	**82.7†**
Latin America	4.9E	90.3†	85.9
Europe	4.0	87.2	83.7
Eastern Europe	4.7E	89.4	85.1
Africa	7.4E †	83.4†	77.2†
Eastern Africa	6.3E	85.8	80.4
Asia	6.0†	86.1†	80.9†
West Central Asia and Middle East	6.1E	79.9†	74.8†
Eastern Asia	4.9E	86.7	82.4
Southeast Asia	5.1E	89.8	85.2
Southern Asia	7.7†	85.1	78.5†

E use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%
F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates
† Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Chart 4.2

Distribution of British Columbia immigrants aged 25 to 54, by region of birth and period of landing, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Table 4.2

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 25 to 54 in British Columbia from selected regions of birth, by period of landing, 2006

	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
		percent	
Canadian born	**3.7**	**86.7**	**83.4**
Very recent immigrants	**9.5**[1]	**70.9**[1]	**64.1**[1]
Europe	F	87.2	80.9
Africa	F	81.5	77.8
Asia	10.5[1]	66.8[1]	59.6[1]
Eastern Asia	F	55.2[1]	50.2[1]
Southern Asia	13.5[E,1]	73.7[1]	63.7[1]
Recent immigrants	**5.1**	**77.1**[1]	**73.1**[1]
Europe	F	86.4	81.0
Africa	F	77.1	72.9
Asia	5.0[E]	75.2[1]	71.4[1]
Eastern Asia	7.8[E,1]	69.8[1]	64.4[1]
Southern Asia	F	75.3[1]	73.5[1]
Established immigrants	**3.8**	**84.6**[1]	**81.4**[1]
Europe	2.9[E]	88.1	85.6
Africa	F	91.2[1]	86.0
Asia	4.2	82.0[1]	78.5[1]
Eastern Asia	4.5[E]	77.2[1]	73.7[1]
Southern Asia	3.8	84.8	81.6

E use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%
F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates
1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$)
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

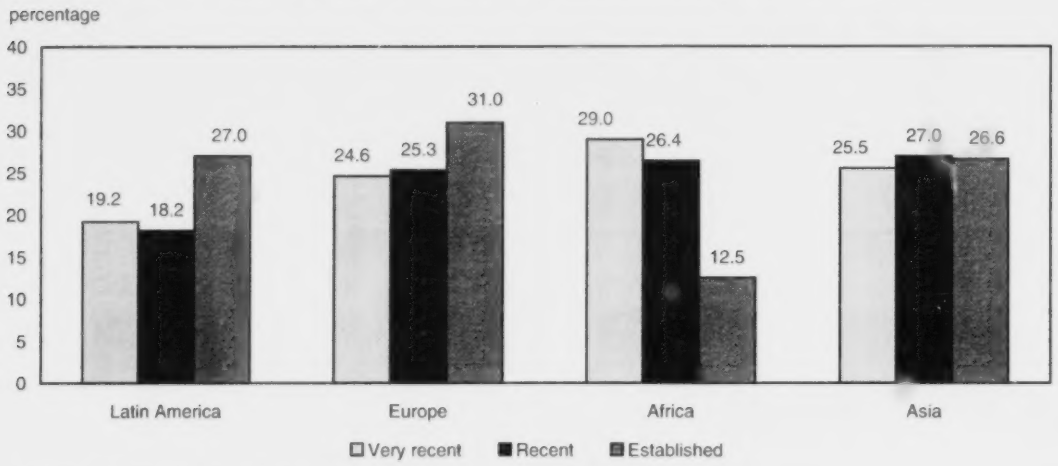
Quebec

Many established immigrants in Quebec come from Europe, though African- and Asian-born immigrants are more common in recent years

In 2006, nearly equal shares of the estimated 435,000 immigrants of core working age in Quebec were born in Europe, Asia, Latin America or Africa (Chart 4.3). While many established Quebec immigrants were born in Europe, Latin America and Asia (in that order), more recent arrivals were born in Africa, Asia and Europe (in that order). The largest shift has been for the African born, who represented 12.5% of established immigrants in Quebec, but 29% of all very recent immigrants.

Chart 4.3

Distribution of Quebec immigrants aged 25 to 54, by region of birth and period of landing, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Unemployment rates high, employment rates low for African-born very recent immigrants in Quebec

As mentioned in the first report,[1] for all periods of landing, unemployment rates for immigrants living in Quebec were higher, and employment rates were lower, than the corresponding national rates and most provincial rates. This section explores these differences based on the immigrants' region of birth.

Nearly 30% of very recent and recent immigrants in Quebec were born in Africa—the highest proportion among all provinces. African-born Quebeckers who are very recent immigrants had an unemployment rate of 27.1%—over four times higher than Canadian-born Quebeckers (Table 4.3). Better labour market outcomes were found for African-born recent immigrants, although their unemployment rate was still nearly three times higher than that of Canadian-born Quebeckers. Established immigrants had a 2006 employment rate that was lower than their Canadian-born counterparts, and an unemployment rate that was 1.6 times higher.

The unemployment rate for non-African very recent immigrants was just over double that of the Canadian born, 13.9% vs. 6.3%. While high, it was similar to very recent immigrant unemployment rates for Canada as a whole and for the other provinces.

High unemployment rates for Asian-born Quebeckers from all periods of landing

Asian-born immigrants in Quebec had labour market outcomes that were not as strong as for those born in Canada, regardless of period of landing. Specifically, for Asian-born Quebec immigrants from all periods of landing, their participation and employment rates were lower than that of Canadian-born Quebeckers.

European-born and Canadian-born Quebeckers had relatively similar labour market outcomes

European-born immigrants in Quebec fared relatively well in the labour market. In 2006, the employment rate for European-born very recent immigrants of core working age was lower than that of the Canadian born, but better than most other immigrants based on region of birth. European-born recent or established immigrants of core working age in Quebec had participation and employment rates that were not much different from the corresponding rates for Quebeckers born in Canada (Table 4.3).

1. Zietsma, Danielle. 2007. *The Canadian Immigrant Labour Market in 2006: First Results from Canada's Labour Force Survey*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 71-606-XIE2007001. Ottawa. Immigrant Labour Force Analysis Series. http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/71-606-XIE/71-606-XIE2007001.htm (accessed January 18, 2008).

Table 4.3

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 25 to 54 in Quebec from selected regions of birth, by period of landing, 2006

	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
		percent	
Canadian born	**6.3**	**87.4**	**81.9**
Very recent immigrants	**17.8**[1]	**72.1**[1]	**59.3**[1]
North America	F	F	F
Latin America	15.4[E,1]	73.8[1]	62.4[1]
Europe	13.2[E,1]	77.2[1]	67.0[1]
Africa	27.1[1]	73.7[1]	53.8[1]
Northern Africa	27.9[E,1]	74.5[1]	54.1[1]
Asia	13.3[E,1]	63.9[1]	55.4[1]
Recent immigrants	**13.4**[1]	**83.1**[1]	**72.0**[1]
North America	F	81.8[E]	77.3[E]
Latin America	F	82.1	75.4
Europe	10.1[E]	85.0	77.0
Africa	17.0[E,1]	87.7	72.8
Northern Africa	18.7[E,1]	87.7	70.5
Asia	18.3[E,1]	76.9[1]	62.8[1]
Established immigrants	**9.2**[1]	**84.6**[1]	**76.8**[1]
North America	F	90.0	85.7
Latin America	12.0[1]	85.2	74.9[1]
Europe	6.3[E]	87.4	81.8
Africa	9.8[E]	81.2	73.3[1]
Northern Africa	F	82.3	75.8
Asia	10.3[E,1]	81.7[1]	73.3[1]

[E] use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%
F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates
1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$)
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Section 5

Immigrant labour market outcomes of youth and older Canadians, by region of birth

Youth

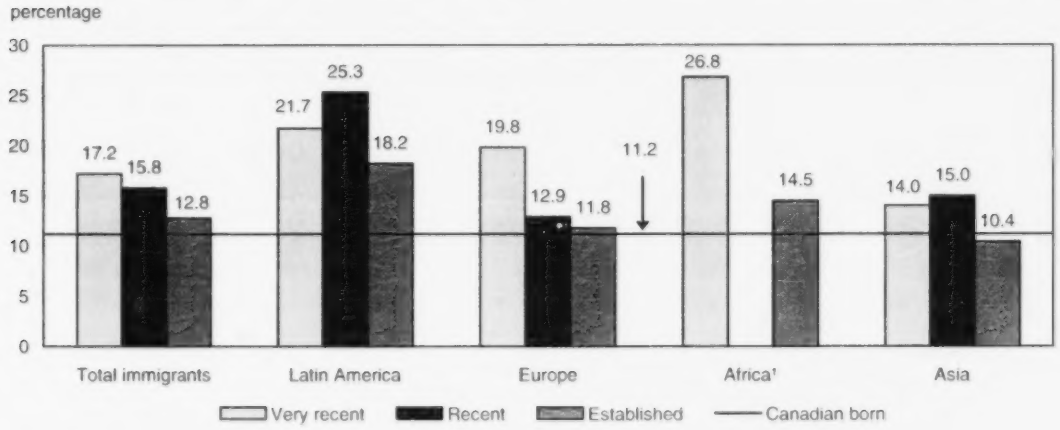
About two-thirds (68.5%) of youth born in Canada were in the labour market in 2006, and their unemployment rate was 11.2%. Labour market outcomes for immigrant youth, particularly those who are very recent and recent immigrants, were generally weaker than those of the Canadian born. The labour market results for more recent immigrant youth paralleled their higher levels of school attendance— that is, they were more likely to be attending school, and those attending school were participating less in the labour market (data not shown).

Asian-born youth had unemployment rates comparable with Canadian-born youth

In 2006, Asian-born immigrant youth from all three periods of landing had unemployment rates that were similar to that of Canadian-born youth (Chart 5.1). Their employment rates, however, were significantly lower than that of the Canadian born, which is at least in part related to comparatively higher rates of school attendance to the exclusion of labour market participation.

Chart 5.1

Unemployment rate for very recent immigrants aged 15 to 24, by region of birth, 2006



1. Data for recent immigrants suppressed because of coefficient of variation (CV) >33.3% and/or very small estimates.
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Weak employment rates for African-born youth for all periods of landing

The employment rates for youth born in Africa were well below that of their Canadian-born peers (Table 5.1). In 2006, very recent African-born youth had an unemployment rate that was more than double that of Canadian-born youth..

Latin American-born youth had high unemployment rates for all periods of landing

Youth born in Latin America, no matter what period they landed in Canada, had high unemployment rates in 2006 compared with Canadian-born youth (Table 5.1). The employment rates of the very recent and recent Latin American-born youth were also lower, while established immigrant youth had a comparable rate.

Table 5.1

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 15 to 24 in Canada from selected regions of birth, by period of landing, 2006

	Population	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
	thousands		percent	
Canadian born	**3,690.3**	**11.2**	**68.5**	**60.8**
Very recent immigrants	**145.5**	**17.2**[1]	**47.6**[1]	**39.5**[1]
Latin America	17.2	21.7[E,1]	48.3[1]	37.2[1]
Europe	20.4	19.8[E]	54.4[1]	43.6[1]
Africa	19.0	26.8[1]	43.2[1]	31.6[1]
Asia	86.0	14.0	46.4[1]	39.9[1]
Recent immigrants	**148.5**	**15.8**[1]	**55.1**[1]	**46.4**[1]
Latin America	15.1	25.3[E,1]	62.9	47.0[1]
Europe	32.0	12.9[E]	67.8	58.8
Africa	11.0	F	50.9[1]	41.8[1]
Asia	86.4	15.0[E]	49.3[1]	42.0[1]
Established immigrants	**236.0**	**12.8**	**63.1**[1]	**55.0**[1]
Latin America	38.8	18.2[1]	70.6	57.7
Europe	53.4	11.8[E]	68.0	59.7
Africa	25.5	14.5[E]	54.1[1]	46.3[1]
Asia	107.3	10.4	59.8[1]	53.7[1]

[E] use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%

F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates

1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Recent and established European-born youth had labour market outcomes comparable with the Canadian born

In 2006, European-born very recent immigrant youth had labour market outcomes that were weaker than their Canadian-born peers. Recent and established European-born immigrants, however, had unemployment rates and employment rates that were comparable with Canadian-born youth (Table 5.1).

Older workers

Most older immigrants landed in Canada 10 or more years ago

In 2006, there were about 2.1 million immigrants aged 55 and older in Canada, the overwhelming majority of whom (93%) had landed in Canada prior to 1996—in fact, most had landed here before 1986. Most of these older, established immigrants were born in two regions: Europe (59%) and Asia (25%). The European-born older immigrants were mainly from Northern Europe (predominantly from the United Kingdom) and Southern Europe (predominantly from Italy), while most of the Asian born came from Eastern Asia (predominantly the People's Republic of China), Southern Asia (predominantly India) and Southeast Asia (predominantly Philippines)

Older Asian-born very recent and recent immigrants had high unemployment rates

In 2006, older Asian-born very recent immigrants had an unemployment rate that was almost three times higher than that of Canadian-born people of the same age. For recent immigrants from Asia, the unemployment rate was more than three times higher (Table 5.2). Older Asian-born established immigrants, however, had an unemployment rate in 2006 that was not much different from their Canadian-born peers.

Established older immigrants born in Eastern Asia had a 2006 unemployment rate that was actually lower than that of their Canadian-born peers, while established immigrants born in the other regions of Asia had unemployment rates that were more or less the same as the Canadian born (Appendix B).

Older Asian-born immigrants, no matter which period they landed, had employment rates that were not much different from the Canadian born.

Latin American-born older immigrants for all periods of landing had strong employment rates

In 2006, very recent and recent Latin American-born immigrants aged 55 and older had employment rates that were comparable with that of their Canadian-born counterparts. Established Latin American-born immigrants of the same age had an employment rate that was higher than both their Canadian-born and fellow immigrant peers' (Table 5.2).

African-born older, established immigrants also enjoyed this high rate of employment in 2006, while those born in Europe had a lower employment rate. The high rates for the African- and Latin American-born older established immigrants and the

low rate for the European born could be related to how many working years they had had in Canada and how economically successful they were during their core working-age period. Further investigation on this subject, using the most up-to-date data sources available, should provide more insight into this situation.

Table 5.2

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 55 and older in Canada from selected regions of birth, by period of landing, 2006

	Population	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
	thousands		percent	
Canadian born	**5,427.1**	**5.1**	**32.1**	**30.5**
Very recent immigrants	**68.1**	**15.4**[E,1]	**32.5**	**27.5**
Latin America	5.6	F	46.4[E]	37.5[E]
Europe	11.1	F	36.0[E]	28.8[E]
Asia	43.9	14.4[E,1]	28.5	24.4
Recent immigrants	**91.3**	**12.3**[E,1]	**35.6**[1]	**31.3**
Latin America	8.6	F	46.5[E]	44.2[E]
Europe	22.0	F	33.6	32.3
Asia	54.3	16.4[E,1]	32.6	27.1
Established immigrants	**1,972.9**	**4.5**	**32.0**	**30.6**
Latin America	170.6	3.8[E]	47.8[1]	46.0[1]
Europe	1,215.7	4.2[1]	28.3[1]	27.1[1]
Africa	63.0	6.4[E]	42.1[1]	39.4[1]
Asia	429.7	5.6	33.4	31.5

E use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%
F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates
1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Conclusion

The main regions and countries of birth for immigrants to Canada of core working age have changed over the past few decades. The majority of very recent and recent immigrants of core working age were born in Asia, followed by Europe, Africa and Latin America. About 40% of established immigrants in this age group were born in Asia, followed by 33% born in Europe and 15% born in Latin America.

Of all regions of birth, the one with the most consistently strong labour market outcomes for all periods of landing was Southeast Asia, many of whom were born in the Philippines. European-born immigrants of core working age also had generally strong labour market outcomes in 2006, but mainly for recent and established immigrants. Those born in Asia and Latin America had mixed results, depending on when they landed, while those born in Africa struggled in the 2006 labour market, regardless of when they landed.

This general pattern held for results found in most provinces, the three largest census metropolitan areas (Toronto, Vancouver and Montréal) and for both youth and older workers. In general, more immigrant men than women of core working age were likely to be participating in the Canadian labour market, regardless of period of landing and region of birth. Among very recent and recent immigrants, both men and women were more likely than the Canadian born to be attending school, and immigrants in school were less likely than the Canadian born to also be participating in the labour force.

Cultural adjustments, language difficulties, social network struggles, Canadian work experience issues and credential recognition problems have been previously cited as reasons for immigrants' slower integration into the labour market. This pattern is not limited to Canada, as it is documented by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development for many other countries as well.

Two other forthcoming reports will look at other aspects of the immigrant's labour market, specifically by answering the following questions:

- What is the relationship between the region where immigrants obtained their highest postsecondary education and their labour market outcomes?
- What is the quality of an immigrant's employment?

The next two papers in this analytical series will attempt to address these questions.

Appendix A

Table A.1
Detailed hierarchy of regions and countries of birth

High-level and detailed regions of birth	Countries of birth
Canada	Canada
North America	Greenland
	Saint Pierre and Miquelon
	United States of America
	North America (not specified)
Latin America	
Central America	Belize
	Costa Rica
	El Salvador
	Guatemala
	Honduras
	Mexico
	Nicaragua
	Panama
	Central America (not specified)
Caribbean and Bermuda[1]	Anguilla
	Antigua and Barbuda
	Aruba
	Bahamas
	Barbados
	Bermuda
	Cayman Islands
	Cuba
	Dominica
	Dominican Republic
	Grenada
	Guadeloupe
	Haiti
	Jamaica
	Martinique
	Montserrat
	Netherlands Antilles
	Puerto Rico
	Saint Kitts and Nevis
	Saint Lucia
	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
	Trinidad and Tobago
	Turks and Caicos Islands
	Virgin Islands (British)
	Virgin Islands (American)
	West Indies (not specified)
	Virgin Islands (not specified)
	Caribbean (not specified)
South America	Argentina
	Bolivia
	Brazil
	Chile
	Colombia
	Ecuador
	Falkland Islands
	French Guiana
	Guyana
	Paraguay
	Peru
	Suriname
	Uruguay
	Venezuela
	South America (not specified)
Europe	
Western Europe	Austria
	Belgium
	France
	Germany
	Liechtenstein
	Luxembourg
	Monaco
	Netherlands
	Switzerland
	Western Europe (not specified)
Eastern Europe	Bulgaria
	Czechoslovakia (former) (not specified)
	Czech Republic
	Estonia
	Hungary
	Latvia
	Lithuania
	Poland
	Romania
	Slovakia
	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (former) (not specified)
	Belarus
	Moldova
	Russia
	Ukraine
	Eastern Europe (not specified)
Northern Europe	Ireland (Republic of)
	Ireland (not specified)
	United Kingdom
	Denmark
	Finland
	Iceland
	Norway
	Sweden
	Scandinavia (not specified)
	Northern Europe (not specified)
Southern Europe	Albania
	Andorra
	Bosnia and Herzegovina
	Croatia
	Gibraltar
	Greece

Table A.1
Detailed hierarchy of regions and countries of birth (continued)

High-level and detailed regions of birth	Countries of birth
	Italy
	Macedonia (former Yugoslav Republic of)
	Malta
	Portugal
	San Marino
	Slovenia
	Spain
	Vatican City State
	Yugoslavia (former) (not specified)
	Serbia and Montenegro
	Macedonia (not specified)
	Southern Europe (not specified)
	Austria–Hungary (former) (not specified)
Europe (not specified)	Europe (not specified)
Africa	
Western Africa	Benin
	Burkina Faso
	Cape Verde
	Ivory Coast
	Gambia
	Ghana
	Guinea
	Guinea-Bissau
	Liberia
	Mali
	Mauritania
	Niger
	Nigeria
	Saint Helena and Ascension
	Senegal
	Sierra Leone
	Togo
	Western Africa (not specified)
Eastern Africa	Burundi
	Comoros
	Djibouti
	Eritrea
	Ethiopia
	Kenya
	Madagascar
	Malawi
	Mauritius
	Mayotte
	Mozambique
	Reunion
	Rwanda
	Seychelles
	Somalia
	Tanzania
	Uganda
	Zambia
	Zimbabwe
	Eastern Africa (not specified)
Northern Africa	Algeria
	Egypt
	Libya
	Morocco
	Sudan
	Tunisia
	Western Sahara
	Northern Africa (not specified)
Central Africa	Angola
	Cameroon
	Central African Republic
	Chad
	Congo (Republic of the)
	Equatorial Guinea
	Gabon
	Sao Tome and Principe
	Congo (Democratic Republic of the) (Zaire)
	Central Africa (not specified)
Southern Africa	Congo (not specified)
	Botswana
	Lesotho
	Namibia
	South Africa
	Swaziland
	Southern Africa (not specified)
Africa (not specified)	Africa (not specified)
Asia (including Middle East)	
West Central Asia and Middle East	Afghanistan
	Cyprus
	Iran
	Turkey
	Bahrain
	Iraq
	Israel
	Jordan
	Kuwait
	Lebanon
	Oman
	Palestine
	Qatar
	Saudi Arabia
	Syria
	United Arab emirates
	Yemen
	Middle East (not specified)
	Armenia
	Azerbaijan
	Georgia
	Kazakhstan
	Kyrgyzstan
	Tajikistan
	Turkmenistan
	Uzbekistan
	West Central Asia (not specified)
	West Bank
	Gaza Strip
	Kurdistan
Eastern Asia	China (not specified)
	China (People's Republic of)
	Hong Kong
	Japan
	North Korea

Table A.1

Detailed hierarchy of regions and countries of birth (continued)

High-level and detailed regions of birth	Countries of birth	High-level and detailed regions of birth	Countries of birth
	South Korea	**Oceania**	American Samoa
	Korea (not specified)		Australia
	Macau		Cook Islands
	Mongolia		Fiji
	Taiwan (Republic of China)		French Polynesia
	Eastern Asia (not specified)		Guam
Southeast Asia	Brunei Darussalam		Kiribati
	Cambodia (Kampuchea)		Marshall Islands
	Indonesia		Micronesia
	Laos		Nauru
	Malaysia		New Caledonia
	Myanmar (Burma)		New Zealand
	Philippines		Palau (Belau)
	Singapore		Papua New Guinea
	Thailand		Pitcairn Island
	Vietnam		Solomon Islands
	South East Asia (not specified)		Tonga
	East Timor		Tuvalu
Southern Asia	Bangladesh		Vanuatu
	Bhutan		Wallis and Gutuna
	India		Samoa
	Maldives		Oceania (not specified)
	Nepal		
	Pakistan		
	Sri Lanka		
	Southern Asia (not specified)		
Asia (not specified)	Asia (not specified)		

1. In the census, this region is grouped under "Central and South America and Caribbean," not "Latin America." The latter term is used here for brevity.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Appendix B

Detailed Tables

Table B.1

Labour market outcomes of male immigrants aged 25 to 54 in Canada, by period of landing and region and country of birth, 2006

	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
		percent	
Canadian born	**5.2**	**91.4**	**86.6**
Very recent immigrants	**10.3**[1]	**86.4**[1]	**77.6**[1]
North America	F	89.8	81.6
Latin America	8.7[E]	86.3	78.8[1]
Central America	F	84.4	76.6
Caribbean and Bermuda	F	87.8	84.7
South America	F	85.6	76.7
Europe	6.5[E]	90.6	84.5
Western Europe	F	91.8	84.7
Eastern Europe	F	90.0	85.1
Northern Europe	F	93.8	87.7
United Kingdom	F	96.6	87.9
Southern Europe	F	88.9	79.2
Africa	19.8[1]	82.0[1]	65.7[1]
Northern Africa	24.0[E 1]	81.0[1]	61.6[1]
Asia	9.8[1]	85.9[1]	77.6[1]
West Central Asia and Middle East	16.1[E 1]	85.1[1]	71.4[1]
Eastern Asia	10.6[E 1]	78.6[1]	70.3[1]
China (People's Republic of)	11.8[E 1]	80.5[1]	71.1
Hong Kong	F	F	F
Southeast Asia	F	90.9	84.6
Vietnam	F	F	F
Philippines	F	91.9	87.0
Southern Asia	7.2[E]	91.5	84.9
India	6.2[E]	91.4	85.8
Recent immigrants	**5.5**	**92.8**	**87.7**
North America	F	88.9	82.2
Latin America	F	94.6[1]	90.7[1]
Central America	F	88.7	85.5
Caribbean and Bermuda	F	96.1[1]	91.3
South America	F	96.8[1]	93.6
Europe	F	94.2[1]	91.9[1]
Western Europe	F	97.6[1]	92.9[1]
Eastern Europe	F	93.8	93.0[1]
Northern Europe	F	94.7	94.7[1]
United Kingdom	F	93.9	93.9[1]
Southern Europe	F	90.0	86.0
Africa	12.0[E 1]	91.6	80.6
Northern Africa	F	91.0	79.1
Asia	5.7	92.4	87.2
West Central Asia and Middle East	F	87.7	81.4
Eastern Asia	6.4[E]	90.1	84.3
China (People's Republic of)	6.5[E]	93.9	87.8
Hong Kong	F	87.8	82.7
Southeast Asia	F	97.7[1]	93.0[1]
Vietnam	F	89.5	F
Philippines	F	99.3[1]	98.5[1]
Southern Asia	5.0[E]	95.2[1]	90.7[1]
India	F	95.2[1]	91.8[1]
Established immigrants	**4.8**	**92.4**	**87.9**
North America	F	93.9	90.9[1]
Latin America	5.7	94.5[1]	89.1[1]
Central America	6.2[E]	93.2	87.4
Caribbean and Bermuda	7.1[E]	94.4[1]	87.7
South America	3.3[E]	95.6[1]	92.4[1]

Table B.1

Labour market outcomes of male immigrants aged 25 to 54 in Canada, by period of landing and region and country of birth, 2006 (continued)

	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
		percent	
Europe	3.9[1]	92.8[1]	89.2[1]
Western Europe	3.9[1]	93.1	89.4
Eastern Europe	4.4[E]	93.5	89.4
Northern Europe	3.5[E,1]	95.6[1]	92.4[1]
United Kingdom	3.5[E,1]	95.6[1]	92.2
Southern Europe	3.9[E]	89.7	86.2
Africa	7.4[E]	87.8	81.5[1]
Northern Africa	F	83.9[1]	79.8
Asia	5.1	91.8	87.1
West Central Asia and Middle East	6.8[E]	90.8	84.7
Eastern Asia	4.7[E]	90.0	85.8
China (People's Republic of)	F	92.2	87.4
Hong Kong	4.3[E]	90.1	86.2
Southeast Asia	4.6[E]	93.3	89.0
Vietnam	7.4[E]	88.8	82.2
Philippines	F	98.3[1]	97.5[1]
Southern Asia	5.0[E]	92.6	87.9
India	4.8[E]	91.9	87.5

E use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%
F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates
1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Table B.2

Labour market outcomes of female immigrants aged 25 to 54 in Canada, by period of landing and region and country of birth, 2006

	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
		percent	
Canadian born	**4.6**	**83.4**	**79.6**
Very recent immigrants	**13.0**[1]	**62.7**[1]	**54.6**[1]
North America	F	64.9[1]	61.0[1]
Latin America	13.0[E,1]	63.6[1]	55.3[1]
Central America	F	51.4[1]	47.1[1]
Caribbean and Bermuda	F	66.7[1]	53.7[1]
South America	F	66.3[1]	59.2[1]
Europe	10.6[1]	71.1[1]	63.6[1]
Western Europe	F	76.8	68.3
Eastern Europe	F	71.8[1]	64.5[1]
Northern Europe	F	71.0	65.2[1]
United Kingdom	F	69.7	63.6[1]
Southern Europe	F	60.9[1]	51.6[E,1]
Africa	21.9[1]	61.0[1]	47.6[1]
Northern Africa	24.1[E,1]	57.6[1]	43.1[1]
Asia	12.8[1]	59.8[1]	52.2[1]
West Central Asia and Middle East	16.8[E,1]	51.7[1]	43.5[1]
Eastern Asia	12.8[1]	55.0[1]	48.2[1]
China (People's Republic of)	12.3[1]	61.0[1]	53.5[1]
Hong Kong	F	F	F
Southeast Asia	F	77.6	73.0[1]
Vietnam	F	59.4[E,1]	56.3[E]
Philippines	F	83.0	78.2
Southern Asia	17.4[1]	56.1[1]	46.3[1]
India	14.3[E,1]	62.4[1]	53.2[1]
Recent immigrants	**9.3**[1]	**71.5**[1]	**64.8**[1]
North America	F	79.7	78.0
Latin America	F	74.7[1]	67.8[1]
Central America	F	67.1[1]	62.9[1]
Caribbean and Bermuda	F	86.8	75.4
South America	F	66.7[1]	63.0[1]
Europe	8.0[E]	80.8	74.3[1]
Western Europe	F	72.2	65.8[1]
Eastern Europe	F	84.9	78.7
Northern Europe	F	83.0	79.2
United Kingdom	F	81.8	79.5
Southern Europe	F	73.7	64.4[1]
Africa	16.0[E,1]	68.9[1]	57.4[1]
Northern Africa	F	78.7	65.2
Asia	9.2[1]	68.0[1]	61.6[1]
West Central Asia and Middle East	F	65.5[1]	58.1[1]
Eastern Asia	9.6[1]	68.5[1]	61.8[1]
China (People's Republic of)	11.1[E,1]	77.9	69.0[1]
Hong Kong	F	65.3[1]	63.3[1]
Southeast Asia	F	81.1	75.5
Vietnam	F	63.0[1]	57.4[1]
Philippines	F	84.7	81.4
Southern Asia	9.4[E,1]	61.4[1]	55.7[1]
India	F	67.9[1]	61.8[1]
Established immigrants	**5.3**[1]	**80.7**[1]	**76.4**[1]
North America	F	80.4	78.4
Latin America	6.5[1]	83.8	78.3
Central America	8.8[E]	78.1	71.2[1]
Caribbean and Bermuda	6.8[E]	87.8[1]	81.8
South America	4.8[E]	80.6	76.7
Europe	4.1	82.1	78.7
Western Europe	4.3[E]	79.1	75.9
Eastern Europe	5.2[E]	85.4	80.9
Northern Europe	3.0[E,1]	84.0	81.5
United Kingdom	3.0[E,1]	84.2	81.7
Southern Europe	4.3[E]	79.6[1]	76.1

Table B.2

Labour market outcomes of female immigrants aged 25 to 54 in Canada, by period of landing and region and country of birth, 2006 (continued)

	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
		percent	
Africa	7.9[E,†]	79.4	73.2[†]
Northern Africa	F	78.0	70.5[†]
Asia	5.9[†]	78.4[†]	73.8[†]
West Central Asia and Middle East	8.2[E]	70.1[†]	64.3[†]
Eastern Asia	4.4[E]	77.8[†]	74.4[†]
China (People's Republic of)	F	76.5[†]	73.6[†]
Hong Kong	4.9[E]	79.7	75.9
Southeast Asia	4.9	83.8	79.7
Vietnam	5.0[E]	80.0	76.0
Philippines	3.6[E]	87.5[†]	84.4
Southern Asia	8.3[†]	75.8[†]	69.5[†]
India	6.6[E]	80.7	75.4

E use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%
F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates
†. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Table B.3

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 25 to 54 in Ontario, by period of landing and region and country of birth, 2006

	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
		percent	
Canadian born	**4.4**	**88.0**	**84.1**
Very recent immigrants	**11.0**[1]	**74.5**[1]	**66.3**[1]
North America	F	77.0	70.5
Latin America	8.4[E,1]	73.8[1]	67.3[1]
Caribbean and Bermuda	F	76.3[1]	70.5[1]
Jamaica	F	90.0	90.0
South America	F	71.3[1]	64.6[1]
Europe	7.1[E,1]	79.4[1]	73.7[1]
Eastern Europe	6.6[E]	82.4[1]	77.0[1]
Poland	F	76.9	73.1
Northern Europe	F	82.3	75.9
United Kingdom	F	83.6	76.7
Southern Europe	F	69.9[1]	63.4[1]
Italy	F	F	F
Africa	19.7[E,1]	70.3[1]	56.9[1]
Eastern Africa	24.6[E,1]	71.9[1]	54.2[1]
Asia	12.1[1]	73.6[1]	64.8[1]
West Central Asia and Middle East	15.7[E,1]	72.1[1]	60.8[1]
Eastern Asia	13.4[E,1]	70.0[1]	60.4[1]
China (People's Republic of)	13.7[E,1]	72.5[1]	62.6[1]
Hong Kong	F	F	F
Southeast Asia	7.8[E]	84.4	77.8
Vietnam	F	F	F
Southern Asia	11.5[1]	72.9[1]	64.5[1]
India	9.6[E,1]	77.6[1]	70.1[1]
Recent immigrants	**7.0**[1]	**82.1**[1]	**76.3**[1]
North America	F	89.4	85.1
Latin America	F	85.3	79.5
Caribbean and Bermuda	F	89.1	79.6
Jamaica	F	82.1	61.5[E]
South America	F	84.0	81.9
Europe	4.3[E]	87.4	83.6
Eastern Europe	F	89.6	86.3
Poland	F	83.6	83.6
Northern Europe	F	94.9[1]	94.9[1]
United Kingdom	F	94.0	94.0[1]
Southern Europe	F	78.3[1]	72.0[1]
Italy	F	F	F
Africa	14.6[E,1]	75.9[1]	64.8[1]
Eastern Africa	F	63.0[1]	54.3[E,1]
Asia	7.5[1]	80.4[1]	74.4[1]
West Central Asia and Middle East	7.9[E]	76.5[1]	70.5[1]
Eastern Asia	8.1[E,1]	82.3[1]	75.7[1]
China (People's Republic of)	8.8[E,1]	86.4	78.8
Hong Kong	F	77.6	70.7[E]
Southeast Asia	F	87.4	80.5
Vietnam	F	61.8[E,1]	52.9[E,1]
Southern Asia	6.9[E]	78.1[1]	72.7[1]
India	6.3[E]	82.1	76.7
Established immigrants	**5.0**	**87.1**	**82.7**[1]
North America	F	84.8	83.1
Latin America	4.9[E]	90.3[1]	85.9
Caribbean and Bermuda	5.9[E]	92.1[1]	86.7
Jamaica	6.1[E]	92.4[1]	86.8
South America	2.9[E,1]	89.5	86.8
Europe	4.0	87.2	83.7
Eastern Europe	4.7[E]	89.4	85.1
Poland	4.8[E]	88.6	84.3
Northern Europe	3.2[E]	89.7	86.8[1]
United Kingdom	3.3[E]	89.6	86.6
Southern Europe	4.0[E]	84.0[1]	80.7[1]
Italy	4.4[E]	87.5	83.8
Africa	7.4[E,1]	83.4[1]	77.2[1]
Eastern Africa	6.3[E]	85.8	80.4

Table B.3

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 25 to 54 in Ontario, by period of landing and region and country of birth, 2006 (continued)

	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
		percent	
Asia	6.0[1]	86.1[1]	80.9[1]
West Central Asia and Middle East	6.1[E]	79.9[1]	74.8[1]
Eastern Asia	4.9[E]	86.7	82.4
China (People's Republic of)	F	88.8	83.9
Hong Kong	4.8[E]	85.9	81.7
Southeast Asia	5.1[E]	89.8	85.2
Vietnam	5.9[E]	85.9	80.8
Southern Asia	7.7[1]	85.1	78.5[1]
India	7.5[E,1]	86.9	80.4

E use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%
F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates
1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value (p<0.05)
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Table B.4

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 25 to 54 in British Columbia, by period of landing and region and country of birth, 2006

	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
		percent	
Canadian born	**3.7**	**86.7**	**83.4**
Very recent immigrants	**9.5[1]**	**70.9[1]**	64.1[1]
North America	F	F	F
Latin America	F	86.1	77.8
Europe	F	87.2	80.9
Africa	F	81.5	77.8
Asia	10.5[1]	66.8[1]	59.6[1]
Eastern Asia	F	55.2[1]	50.2[1]
Hong Kong	F	F	F
Southeast Asia	F	84.6	80.8
Southern Asia	13.5[E,1]	73.7[1]	63.7[1]
India	F	75.2[1]	66.4[1]
Recent immigrants	**5.1**	**77.1[1]**	**73.1[1]**
North America	F	F	F
Latin America	F	80.0	77.1
Europe	F	86.4	81.0
Africa	F	77.1	72.9
Asia	5.0[E]	75.2[1]	71.4[1]
Eastern Asia	7.8[E,1]	69.8[1]	64.4[1]
Hong Kong	F	72.5[1]	70.6[1]
Southeast Asia	F	87.7	85.4
Southern Asia	F	75.3[1]	73.5[1]
India	F	77.0	75.0
Established immigrants	**3.8**	**84.6[1]**	**81.4[1]**
North America	F	83.3	80.1
Latin America	F	91.3[1]	88.2
Europe	2.9[E]	88.1	85.6
Africa	F	91.2[1]	86.0
Asia	4.2	82.0[1]	78.5[1]
Eastern Asia	4.5[E]	77.2[1]	73.7[1]
Hong Kong	5.4[E]	81.8[1]	77.4[1]
Southeast Asia	4.8[E]	86.7	82.5
Southern Asia	3.8	84.8	81.6
India	3.7	85.9	82.7

E use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%
F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates
1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value (p<0.05)
Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Table B.5

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 25 to 54 in Quebec, by period of landing and region of birth, 2006

	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
		percent	
Canadian born	**6.3**	**87.4**	**81.9**
Very recent immigrants	**17.8**[1]	**72.1**[1]	**59.3**[1]
North America	F	F	F
Latin America	15.4[E,1]	73.8[1]	62.4[1]
Caribbean and Bermuda	F	75.4	61.4[E]
Europe	13.2[E,1]	77.2[1]	67.0[1]
Eastern Europe	13.8[E,1]	69.9[1]	60.3[1]
Southern Europe	F	F	F
Africa	27.1[1]	73.7[1]	53.8[1]
Northern Africa	27.9[E,1]	74.5[1]	54.1[1]
Asia	13.3[E,1]	63.9[1]	55.4[1]
West Central Asia and Middle East	F	70.3[1]	58.2[1]
Southeast Asia	F	64.3[E]	62.9[E]
Recent immigrants	**13.4**[1]	**83.1**[1]	**72.0**[1]
North America	F	81.8[E]	77.3[E]
Latin America	F	82.1	75.4
Caribbean and Bermuda	F	94.7[1]	88.0
Europe	10.1[E]	85.0	77.0
Eastern Europe	F	87.3	78.5
Southern Europe	F	89.5	78.9
Africa	17.0[E,1]	87.7	72.8
Northern Africa	18.7[E,1]	87.7	70.5
Asia	18.3[E,1]	76.9[1]	62.8[1]
West Central Asia and Middle East	F	73.4	54.7[E]
Southeast Asia	F	F	F
Established immigrants	**9.2**[1]	**84.6**[1]	**76.8**[1]
North America	F	90.0	85.7
Latin America	12.0[1]	85.2	74.9[1]
Caribbean and Bermuda	12.5[E,1]	87.1	76.3
Europe	6.3[E]	87.4	81.8
Eastern Europe	F	89.9	84.1
Southern Europe	5.7[E]	85.2	80.4
Africa	9.8[E]	81.2	73.3[1]
Northern Africa	F	82.3	75.8
Asia	10.3[E,1]	81.7[1]	73.3[1]
West Central Asia and Middle East	13.4[E,1]	83.8	72.6[1]
Southeast Asia	8.3[E]	80.3	73.6

[E] use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%
F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates
1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Table B.6

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 15 to 24 in Canada, by period of landing and region and country of birth, 2006

	Population	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
	thousands		percent	
Canadian born	**3,690.4**	**11.2**	**68.5**	**60.8**
Very recent immigrants	**145.5**	**17.2†**	**47.6†**	**39.5†**
North America	1.5	F	F	F
Latin America	17.2	21.7E †	48.3†	37.2†
Europe	20.4	19.8E	54.4†	43.6†
Eastern Europe	13.5	23.3E	54.1†	41.5†
Africa	19.0	26.8†	43.2†	31.6†
Asia	86.0	14.0	46.4†	39.9†
West Central Asia and Middle East	18.3	20.3E	43.2†	34.4†
Southern Asia	28.5	12.8E	57.5†	50.2†
Recent immigrants	**148.5**	**15.8†**	**55.1†**	**46.4†**
North America	3.3	F	60.6E	51.5E
Latin America	15.1	25.3E †	62.9	47.0†
Caribbean and Bermuda	8.5	36.7E †	57.6	36.5†
Europe	32.0	12.9E	67.8	58.8
Eastern Europe	18.5	13.8E	70.3	60.5
Africa	11.0	F	50.9†	41.8†
Asia	86.4	15.0E	49.3†	42.0†
Eastern Asia	33.1	18.0E	33.5†	27.5†
Southern Asia	21.5	19.1E	60.9	49.3†
Established immigrants	**236.3**	**12.8**	**63.1†**	**55.0†**
North America	9.8	F	62.2	52.0
Latin America	38.8	18.2†	70.6	57.7
Caribbean and Bermuda	16.4	22.9E †	72.0	54.9
Europe	53.4	11.8E	68.0	59.7
Southern Europe	15.0	18.3E	62.0	51.3
Africa	25.5	14.5E	54.1†	46.3†
Asia	107.3	10.4	59.8†	53.7†
West Central Asia and Middle East	22.0	13.8E †	65.9	56.8
Eastern Asia	41.4	12.1E	54.1†	47.6†
Hong Kong	28.2	9.7E	55.0†	49.6†

E use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%

F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates

† Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Table B.7

Labour market outcomes of immigrants aged 55 and older in Canada, by period of landing and region of birth, 2006

	Population	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	Employment rate
	thousands		percent	
Canadian born	**5,427.1**	**5.1**	**32.1**	**30.5**
Very recent immigrants	**68.1**	**15.4**[E,1]	**32.5**	**27.5**
North America	2.1	F	F	F
Latin America	5.6	F	46.4[E]	37.5[E]
Europe	11.1	F	36.0[E]	28.8[E]
Africa	5.0	F	F	F
Asia	43.9	14.4[E,1]	28.5	24.4
Recent immigrants	**91.3**	**12.3**[E,1]	**35.6**[1]	**31.3**
North America	2.0	F	75.0[1]	75.0[1]
Latin America	8.6	F	46.5[E]	44.2[E]
Europe	22.0	F	33.6	32.3
Africa	3.5	F	45.7[E]	F
Asia	54.3	16.4[E,1]	32.6	27.1
Established immigrants	**1,972.9**	**4.5**	**32.0**	**30.6**
North America	77.7	F	39.1[1]	38.0[1]
Latin America	170.6	3.8[E]	47.8[1]	46.0[1]
Caribbean and Bermuda	98.5	3.5[E]	49.4[1]	47.7[1]
Europe	1,215.7	4.2[1]	28.3[1]	27.1[1]
Western Europe	249.4	3.7[E,1]	30.2	29.1
Eastern Europe	168.0	4.9[E]	23.2[1]	22.0[1]
Northern Europe	367.5	3.2[E,1]	33.3	32.2
United Kingdom	327.9	2.8[E,1]	33.2	32.4
Southern Europe	430.7	5.4[E]	24.9[1]	23.5[1]
Italy	252.4	5.8[E]	23.1[1]	21.8[1]
Africa	63.0	6.4[E]	42.1[1]	39.4[1]
Asia	429.7	5.6	33.4	31.5
Eastern Asia	184.0	3.4[E,1]	30.5	29.5
Southeast Asia	99.9	7.7[E]	36.6	33.8
Southern Asia	104.5	6.8[E]	33.9	31.5

E use with caution: coefficient of variation (CV) between 16.5% and 33.3%

F too unreliable to be published because of CV>33.3% and/or very small estimates

1. Significantly different from the respective Canadian-born value ($p<0.05$).

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.